

The Laurens Advertiser.

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THE LAURENS MILL ENJOYING SUCCESS

Greenville News Correspondent Visits Plant

PLANS TO BUILD

Y. M. C. A. BUILDING

Wages have been increased approximately Ten Per Cent Recently and the Mill Community is a Village of Happy and Contented People.

Tuesday morning's Greenville News carried the following very complimentary write-up of The Laurens Cotton Mills, written by one of the newspaper's staff correspondents:

The Laurens Mill is enjoying the most successful period perhaps of its 21 years existence. Recently the wages were increased about ten per cent affecting practically all of the 400 employees and at present a number of other things for the welfare of its people are being undertaken by the management. About the shortest and clearest definition of this mill and village would be these words: "A mill that is modern, a management that is progressive and a people that are happy."

This mill is situated in the city of Laurens and occupies practically all of ward 3. The Little River passes between the mill village and the rest of the city while the Spartanburg branch of the Charleston and Western Carolina railway skirts the village as it enters the city. In the matter of elevation the village perhaps has the advantage over the rest of the city being upon a high hill that gives a commanding view of the country round about. The leading street is Fleming, named in honor of the former owners of the land. The mill office, which is said to be one of the finest of its kind in the State and the company store are upon this thoroughfare. A number of stores run by other parties are also on this street, showing that the mill management, although owning all surrounding property and buildings does not keep out competitors and encourages the operatives to trade where they please. The mill is situated about an equal distance from East Main and Fleming streets. The mill has 15,000 spindles and 1,200 looms making dentures and goods of a like nature.

Occupying the highest pinnacle of all was a splendid baseball park the grandstand and diamond being enclosed. "Have a good ball team here?" queried the reporter. "Always until this season we have," was the answer received. Naturally that suggested hard luck, financial losses and the like.

"The game cost too much then?" ventured the reporter. "Far from it!" was the answer from several who were present. "Our team was just taken down to El Paso last summer as a part of the National Guard." It was then learned that about 15 men from the village enlisted with Company D, better known as the Traynam Guards, and this number included practically all the members of the baseball team. Perhaps no other mill village in the State can boast of a larger number of young men in a single military company, when it is considered that this company was organized outside of the village.

Although a part of the city, the village has three churches, including Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian. All these buildings are commodious structures and were built, with the exception of the Presbyterian, on the mill property. This last named church was erected by a Mr. Todd and is known as Todd Memorial church. It is located just on the edge of the village. The Baptists have a membership of about 200. The Rev. J. A. Brock is pastor of this church and S. W. Rutledge is superintendent of the Sunday school. The Rev. W. H. Lewis is pastor of the Methodist church and J. W. Hellams, who is also a member of city council has charge of the Sunday school. This church has a membership of about 50. The Rev. J. L. McIn is pastor of

the Presbyterian church and R. J. Franks is superintendent of Sunday school. All of the above named, reside in the village except Rev. McIn. A teacher's training school, run by the pastors of the village, has been run successfully for a number of years and has proved of great benefit to those attending.

A Y. M. C. A. building will be erected in the course of the next few months. The probable cost will be about \$10,000 and a physical director and perhaps a teacher of domestic science will be secured. This building will be on the lot adjoining the company's store and will be modern in every particular. The erection of this building is not done in the sense of luring or even of holding the present help, who are contented and have no complaint to make in regard to the attractions of the village.

As an evidence of this, the following list of those employed in the mill contains many who have been on the payroll of the company for 10, 15 and even 20 years: George Franks, overseer of the card-room; John Snoddy, assistant of card-room; W. H. Gosnell and J. F. Thomas of the spinning room; R. R. Woodside, J. O. Davis and C. E. Word, of the weave room; R. E. Blakeley of the cloth room; F. H. Coleman, master mechanic and V. E. W. Good, timekeeper, have also been here for a number of years.

This feeling of permanency seems to extend to the officers of the mill who are Col. N. B. Dial, of Laurens, President; W. S. Montgomery, vice-president and treasurer; M. L. Smith, secretary and J. M. Moore, superintendent. Mr. Smith has been secretary for over 10 years and several others have been connected with the company for a number of years.

In the matter of schools the village is above the average, perhaps. The building is a handsome two-story structure and cost about \$15,000. The auditorium has 350 opera chairs, a splendid stage and is well furnished in every way. Steam heat is used, sanitary drinking fountains are in all the halls and a library, on the second floor, contains several hundred volumes. The kindergarten is large and has everything needed in this department. The school contains four grades and pupils above that grade go to the city schools. It is worthy of note that although the school is a part of the city school system the building was erected by the mill authorities. The present enrollment is 151, about 40 of whom are in the kindergarten. The faculty consists of Miss Mary Simpson, principal and Misses Irene Ray, Annie Clardy, Francis Thames, and Jennie Shealey.

A number of pupils in this school recently did work that caused comment from those in charge, as well as from Mr. Parkinson, superintendent of the city schools. Beatrice Roland and Hugh Coleman, aged 6 and 7 respectively, are in the second grade and have demonstrated that they are readers of more than ordinary ability. Little Zell Blakeley and Lola Snoddy, both of the fourth grade have recently written several compositions that were very original, stated Miss Simpson. This school also attracted much favorable comment at the recent county school fair.

A night school was run here for twelve nights last year and many learned to read and write, about \$8 attending. On the last night of the school all pupils wrote a letter to Governor Manning asking that an appropriation be made for the night school. A favorable reply was received and the school got \$86 to be used for that purpose. One thing not mentioned is the spirit of cooperation shown by the people of the village in every movement that is launched for the common good.

This spirit has become a part of the village itself. Therefore, when it is considered that the efforts of the management have met with the heartiest cooperation of the employees it is no wonder that Laurens mill village is a model of happiness and contentment.

Appointed Rural School Supervisor.

Mrs. Clara W. Frierson, of the upper part of the county, has been appointed Rural School Supervisor for this county to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Miss Wil Lou Gray. Mrs. Frierson is a graduate of Winthrop college and a teacher of several years' experience.

COOPER ANNOUNCES FOR GOVERNORSHIP

Will Be in The Race in 1918

OTHER HATS MAY
BE IN THE RING

Thos. H. Peoples also has Announced and Other Politicians Said to be Considering It. Cooper Holds an Informal Conference in Columbia.

Columbia, Oct. 26.—Robert A. Cooper of Laurens, after an informal conference with personal friends last night, announced that he was in the race for the Democratic nomination for governor in 1918.

Mr. Cooper's announcement aroused much interest in political circles. Numbers of people from various parts of the State after his decision became known, called on him and assured him of support.

Mr. Cooper is well known throughout the State. He has served as solicitor of the Eighth circuit for 12 years and prior to his election to that office he represented Laurens county in the general assembly.

Mr. Cooper was in the race for governor in 1914 and came within a few votes of getting in the second race. He ran again this year and polled over 30,000 votes. Mr. Cooper is a splendid speaker and has a large personal following. He stands for all that is progressive in the democracy of South Carolina.

Some of Mr. Cooper's friends are planning for a big rally some time in the spring in Columbia, when plans will likely be laid to begin an active campaign for him.—The State.

COURT CONVENES WEDNESDAY.

Postponed Two Days on Account of Salesday and General Election.

The Court of Common Pleas will convene next Wednesday, November 8th. Judge I. W. Bowman will preside. On account of the regular legal sales to be held Monday and the election to be held Tuesday, it was decided to postpone the opening of the court from Monday until Wednesday.

The jurors for the first week have already been published. The jurors for the second week will be as follows:

Dials: S. M. Garrett, S. L. Curry, W. H. Knight, Lady H. Abernethy, A. S. Holder.

Laurens: T. R. Blakeley, B. R. Clardy, W. T. Senn, T. R. Burns, Geo. T. Willard, Clyde T. Franks, A. B. Burns, R. H. Donaldson, A. M. Ramage, P. B. Bailey, E. G. Bramlett.

Youngs: John Robt. Owens, R. A. Harris, R. G. Sprouse.

Sullivan: A. S. Kenzie, L. S. Mahon, G. C. Roper.

Waterloo: A. W. Sims, Jas. F. W. Burton, J. N. Jones, J. H. Mitchell, A. C. Phillips, P. W. Finley.

Hunter: J. K. Templeton, B. B. Mills, J. D. Meekins, Hugh L. Cunningham, Jas. H. Madden, D. T. Godfrey.

Scuffletown: J. E. Little.

Jacks: W. S. Riser.

INCOME TAX PAYERS.

Twenty-One Persons Make Returns to the County Auditor as Being Liable for Income Tax.

Twenty-one persons of this county have made their returns to County Auditor Thompson as income tax payers, the total amount returned being \$272.95. The fortunate ones are: Mrs. Carrie T. Fleming, O. B. Simmons, Wells Todd, S. M. & E. H. Wilkes & Co., L. R. Kerr, W. C. Raser, Dr. J. H. Miller, C. M. Bailey, M. S. Bailey, W. J. Bailey, D. E. Tribble, J. P. Carter, H. L. Seale, R. Z. Wright, Jno. H. Young, J. S. Craig, W. P. Harris, J. McD. Moore, Owings & Bobo, Owings & Owings, Guy L. Copeland.

The total amount of property of all kinds returned for taxation for 1916 is \$7,385,350. In 1911 the total amount was \$6,886,000, showing an increase of nearly half a million dollars.

WILL TAKE CENSUS OF CHURCH-GOERS

Work Undertaken by Sunday Schools

TO DO THE WORK
NOVEMBER 23D

Albert C. Todd has been Chosen Chairman of the Central Committee. The Survey to Include the City Proper, Mills and Colored Population.

The details of the plans for making a complete religious census of the city of Laurens are being rapidly worked out through the various committees named for that purpose at a recent meeting of the executive committee. As has been stated, a few weeks ago a movement was set on foot through the suggestion of the president of the Barren class of the First Baptist church Sunday school, whereby it was proposed that all the Sunday schools of the city unite in the work of ascertaining the religious status of the town; that is, who are the people and how many are there that are not attending any Sunday school or church.

The proposition met with prompt approval by the Baptist Sunday School, and the leaders of the other Sunday schools of the city were as prompt in accepting the privilege of co-operating in the proposed plan. Briefly stated, this was the beginning of the movement.

The work of organizing the forces, forming the necessary preliminaries, was at once taken up through the central committee, assisted by the advisory committee which is composed of all the ministers of the city. Consequently at a meeting of the central committee, which constitutes in its membership a representative from each Sunday school in the city, the necessary committees for the proper handling of the main job were selected. Chairman of committees were provided with folders containing information on the entire proposition, and especially on the part his committee would be expected to take in the general scheme.

Albert C. Todd was chosen as chairman of the Executive Committee of Home Visitation, and this committee will, with the aid of the advisory committee, direct all the preliminary work. As a means of bringing together the members of the various committees for the purpose of discussing the scope and plans of the work, a meeting was held Monday night in the court house. Chairman Todd presided. He explained that the work was progressing in a very satisfactory manner. He was enthusiastic in his remarks relative to the co-operative spirit shown and the realization of the need of such a census in the city.

After announcing the personnel of the different committees, Chairman Todd stated that Thursday afternoon, Nov. 23, had been decided upon as the day that the campaign or town-wide census, will be made, the work to be done in two hours—from 2 to 4 o'clock. In response to the chairman's invitation stirring talks were made by the Rev. C. F. Rankin, Percy W. Moore and the Rev. S. H. Templeman, the speakers taking up and presenting many phases of the importance of the work in which the Sunday schools and churches of the city are about to engage. Others present spoke words of encouragement and cordial indorsement. It was an enthusiastic meeting, probably one of the most unique ever held in the old court house. Before adjournment it was announced that a grand mass meeting will be held on Sunday before the census-taking day, and it is probable that one or more leading Sunday school leaders outside the city will be on hand to address the meeting.

Meantime the work of spreading information in regard to the census among the people of the entire city, including the communities in which live the colored inhabitants, selecting teams for the actual work, laying out the work by wards and districts, preparing the hand-books for the census taking and many other matters will

LAURENS WINNERS AT THE FAIR.

Local Exhibitors Well Pleased with State Fair. Make High Records.

Mr. John D. W. Watts, who attended the State Fair as usual last week, has returned and speaks in very high terms of the exhibits this year. He said he was very well pleased with all phases of the fair, including the awarding of premiums in which he was interested.

Laurens men were very successful in those departments where they competed. Messrs. Watts and H. Culbertson won all the Pig Game premiums for which they competed, 26 in number. Mr. Watts won 50 per cent of the premiums offered for Ayrshire cattle. Gas Wofford, of Madden, was a prize winner among the Pig Club boys.

Mr. Watts states that he purchased and brought back with him for service a fine Ayrshire bull. This bull is from a 62 lb. 11-2 per cent cow, according to Mr. Watts, and is descended from a long line of blooded cattle.

Charlie Drummond at Home.

Mr. Charlie Drummond, who has been with one of the Greenville companies on the border, received a furlough of a month upon the death of his father, Mr. W. H. Drummond, and is now visiting relatives here and at Laurens. Mr. Drummond says that the boys are all anxious to get back home again, though they are in considerably doubt as to when they will get traveling orders. Mr. Drummond thinks they will be on the border for some time yet.

Davies Missionary Society.

The Davies Missionary society study class will meet at the home of Mrs. James Dunklin Tuesday afternoon, November 7th, at 4 o'clock.

be handled through the committees.

At the meeting Monday night J. B. Blackwell of the district committee from Ward 6, stated that he had completed a preliminary survey of the ward and found that it will take twenty men to cover it. On this basis it is probable that it will require the services of more than 150 to cover the city and the village of Watts Mills in the time that has been allotted.

Following is the personnel of some of the committees in charge of the preliminary work:

Executive Committee.

First Baptist Church, W. P. Thompson, secretary.

First Methodist, H. Terry.

First Presbyterian, A. C. Todd, chairman.

Second Baptist, W. H. Tengee.

Second Methodist, J. W. Hellams.

Todd Memorial, S. H. Templeton.

Lucas Avenue, E. P. Driggers.

Watts Mills Methodist, J. S. Martin.

Church of the Epiphany, C. L. Stoner.

A. R. P. Church, A. J. Davis.

Advisory Committee.

Rev. S. H. Templeman, Pastor First Baptist Church.

Rev. J. R. T. Major, Pastor First Methodist Church.

Rev. C. F. Rankin, Pastor First Presbyterian Church.

Rev. J. A. Brock, Pastor Second Baptist Church and Lucas Avenue Baptist Church.

Rev. W. H. Lewis, Pastor Second Methodist Church and Watts Mills Methodist Church.

Rev. I. N. Kennedy, Pastor Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Rev. J. L. McIn, Pastor Todd Memorial Church and Watts Mills Presbyterian Church.

District Committee.

Ward 1—W. H. Gilkerson.

Ward 2—M. H. Hunter.

Ward 3—John F. Montgomery.

Ward 4—Thos. C. Switzer.

Ward 5—Rice Nickles.

Ward 6—L. B. Blackwell.

Watts Mill—C. H. Sims.

Finance Committee.

First Baptist Church, Clyde T. Franks.

First Methodist, L. G. Baile.

First Presbyterian, W. P. McCuen.

A. R. P. Church, J. R. Ellis.

Church of the Epiphany, Dr. J. H. Powe.

Second Baptist, John M. Snoddy.

Holmes Street Methodist, Fred Duncan.

Todd Memorial, R. J. Franks.

Lucas Avenue, John M. Moore.

Watts Mill Methodist, A. Tinsley.

Publicity Committee.

H. K. Aiken, R. E. Babb, W. L. Taylor.

TEACHER'S INSTITUTE LATTER PART OF WEEK

Attractive Program Has Been Arranged

GOVERNOR MANNING
AMONG SPEAKERS

Supl. Sullivan has Arranged a Very Attractive Program with such Speakers as Gov. Manning, Dr. Carroll, Dr. Snyder and Others. The Meetings Open to the Public.

Gov. Richard L. Manning has accepted of the invitation of County Board of Education J. H. Sullivan to make an address before the teachers at the Teachers Institute, which is to be held at the graded school building, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week.

Gov. Manning will speak Friday night at 8 o'clock. Board of Education J. H. Sullivan will speak the same evening. Dr. W. S. Carroll will lecture Thursday evening at the same hour. Dr. Snyder is on the program for Saturday morning. All of these addresses will be made at meetings which are open to the public and to which the public is invited. There will be no admission fees.

The program for the meeting is as follows:

Thursday, Nov. 2nd.

8:00 P. M.—Invocation, Rev. C. F. Rankin.

Welcome Address—W. L. Gray, Member of City Board of Trustees.

Response—R. T. Wilson, Superintendent of Gray Court-Owings school.

Music—Laurens Male Quartette.

Lecture—Dr. W. S. Carroll, President of South Carolina University.

Friday, Nov. 3rd.

8:15 to 8:35—Devotional exercises, Rev. J. R. T. Major.

9:15 to 11:30—Demonstration Teaching in City and Rural Schools, by Laurens City School Teachers.

11:30 to 11:45—Intermission.

11:45 to 1 P. M.—Discussion of Methods used:

1. High School, led by Mrs. Clara W. Frierson, Supervising Teacher for Laurens County.

2. Grammar Grades, led by B. L. Parkinson, Superintendent of Laurens City Schools.

3. Primary Grades, led by Miss Annie Workman, Normal Training Teacher for Laurens County.

4. 2:30 to 3:15—"The School as a Social Center"—Chas. P. Barre, Superintendent of Education for Newberry County.

3:14 to 4:00—"The Making of a Daily Schedule and the Continuation of Classes"—Miss Sadie Goggans, Newberry, S. C.

4:00—Invocation—Rev. S. H. Templeman.

Lecture—Richard L. Manning, Governor of South Carolina.

Lecture—"School Tests"—J. E. Swearingen, State Superintendent of Education.

Saturday, Nov. 4th.

9:00 to 9:45 A. M.—Demonstration Work and its Relation to the Schools.—P. W. Moore, Farm Demonstrator for Laurens County.

Address—Dr. Henry N. Snyder, President of Wofford College.

Business Meeting. Adjournment.

Dies on the Border.

News has just been received by telegram from the border that Mr. Iphig Blalock one of the National Guard boys had died yesterday in Texas from typhoid fever. It is understood that Mr. Blalock was a member of the Union Company, although he was once a resident of this city. Mr. Blalock has many relatives and friends throughout the county who will be sorry to hear of his death.

Mike Parks Visits North and West.

Mike Parks is at home again after an extended visit in the North and West. He talks very interestingly of his travels through Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan and his stay in "Chi", but he says there is no place like Laurens, S. C.